

44
Miracles of the B. Virgin.

OR, AN

Historical Account

OF THE

Original, and Stupendious Performances

OF THE

I M A G E,

ENTITLED,

Our Blessed Lady of Halle.

VIZ.

Restoring the Dead to Life, Healing the Sick, Delivering of Captives, &c.

Written Originally in *Latin*, by *Johannes Lippius*; afterwards translated into *French*, then into *Dutch*, and now rendered into *English*.

*Ecclesia Catholica & fundata est
Miraculis, & Conseruata.*

Costerus in Each. Cont. p. 102.

London, Printed in the Year 1688.

Author of the "Chicago"

Chicago Account

Original and Subsequent Performances

OF THE

M. A. G. F.

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Restoring the Dead to Life, Healing the Sick, De-
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Written originally in Latin by John Wesley; afterwards trans-
lated into French, then into Italian, and now translated into English.

Translated into English by
John Wesley, &c.

Collected in English, &c.

London, Printed in the Year 1735.

To the Reader.

T*Hose of the Roman Communion, have imposed on the belief of Mankind such Fabulous Legends, and Ridiculous Stories, that I think it a sufficient Antidote against their Errors, to expose some of these pretended Miracles to the view of the World; it is to this that I have Translated the following Relations. It will not be amiss to give my Readers some account of the Book, from whence I Translated these Relations, which I shall do as briefly as I can. Justus Lipsius published a Book in Latin, in the year 1604. Intituled Diva Virgo Hallensis Beneficia ejus, & Miracula, Fide, atque Ordine descripta. This Treatise was Licensed and Approved by Gulielmus de Berghes, Archbishop of Camerick, Valerianus Flossius Vicar General, and Gulielmus Fabritius, the Censor of Books. It was Translated into French, and augmented by Claudius Maillard a Jesuit; it was Translated into Dutch by Philip Numan, and again into French by Ludovicus du Gardin a Physician; it was afterwards again rendred into Dutch, with Maillards Additions, by N. N. a Jesuit, and Printed at Brussels Anno 1657. It is Licensed by the Censor of Books, but there is a Caution in the Licensing of it, which was not made use of in the Latin Edition of Lipsius; and it is, That none of these Miracles shall be received upon the Credit of the Church, unless, at least, they be attested by a Bishop, but shall be*

taken upon the Credit of the Faithful Historian ; and this was in obedience to the two Bulls of Pope Urban the 8th. to that purpose. It seems that they began to blush at these Ridiculous Stories, but yet they would have the Commonalty believe them, though not at the expence of the Publick Faith. I have in this Translation most followed the Dutch Edition, which is divided into three parts ; the first is spent in the Description of the City of Halle, and the Image ; which I have rather abridged than translated. All that I have taken from this part, is comprized in my first Chapter, and is (tho an abridgment) in the Authors own words for the most part ; the Miracles make the second part, which is subdivided into two parts ; the first whereof contains all the Miracles that are in Lipsius ; it is this that I have taught to speak English. The third part is an account of the gifts offered to the B. Virgin ; Lipsius's Treatise met with some opposition in the World, and was defended by Anastasius Cochelet, a Camelite, and D. D. of Paris, and by Carolus Scribanus a Dutch Jesuit.

Because I would not give the least opportunity to the Romish Calumniators, to traduce me as a false Translator, I have rendered it almost verbatim, though I am not ignorant that it is esteemed to be an Error by the best Translators.

CHAP.

CHAP. I.

Of the Original of the Holy Image; a short Description of
the noble Descent and Vertue of the Holy Elizabeth.

IN order to a clearer prospect of the Original of
this Holy Image, it seems necessary to enquire in-
to the royal Pedigree, and constant Vertue of the
pious Elizabeth.

Hist. Hall. Lipsf.
c. 2. ad P. Mail-
lard, c. 6.

Andreas II. surnamed Hierosolymitanus, the third Son
of Bela III. King of Hungary; after the Death of his
Brothers, inherited the Kingdom of Hungary, Anno
1201. His Queen was Gertrude, Daughter to the Duke
of Meremb, Krenten and Istrien, by whom he had three
Sons and one Daughter, viz. Bela IV. Gelomarus,
Andrew and Elizabeth. Andrew being desirous to ad-
vance himself, travelled to Venice, and there married
a rich Wife, by whom he had a Son named Marcus.

Marcus not being contented with the Estate his Fa-
ther left him possessed of, went to Sicardy, and there
married Catharine de Croy, legal Heire of the House
of Croy, descended from the Ralsgraves of Hungary,
and Wittenberg; from this Marriage sprung that illu-
strious Family of Croy.

Elizabeth (which most serves our Design) Daugh-
ter, as above, of Andrew II. King of Hungary, and
Aunt to Marcus; at the Age of three Years, was by
Ambassadors betrothed to Lewis Son of Hexmon, Land-
grave of Thuringia and Hessa, descended from Charles
the Great. At the Age of four Years she was conveyed
to Thuringia, to be educated in her Bridegrdems Fa-
thers

B.

thers

thers Court. It would be tedious to relate the Signs of a Pious Disposition, visible in her Infancy.

It shall suffice to remark, That being then a Virgin, and afterwards both Wife and Widow, her vertuous Deportment in all these Estates rendered her Famous: The Painters and Carvers represented her with three Crowns on her Head; intimating, that she had merited a Crown from each State. At the Age of fourteen, she was married to *Lewis*, and had Issue by him, viz. *Hermannus* (who did not live long) and *Sophia*, also another Daughter of the same Name, or according to some, her Name was *Gertrude*; she left this World for a Cloyster.

Lewis accompanying the Emperor *Frederick*, to assist in the conquest of the *Holy Land*, dyed in *Apulia*, or as some affirm in *Sicilie*. His Body was sent to *Elizabeth*, who with extraordinary Grief interr'd it. *Henry* her Husbands Brother, after many Injuries offered to her, not only bereft her of all her Estate, but banished her so hastily, that she could hardly find a Place of Repose for herself and Children. She retired to *Marburg* in *Hassia*; where after having spent four Years in all manner of vertuous Exercises, by the Assistance of one *Conrad*, a religious Man, she departed this Life, being but twenty four Years of Age, Anno 1231. Her Sanctity and Miracles caused Pope *Gregory IX.* to add her to the number of the Saints, Anno 1235.

Sophia her eldest Daughter, and Heiress rather of her Vertue than Estate, went into the *Netherlands*, where she was married to *Henry II.* Duke of *Brabant*. He had *Henry III.* by his first Dutchess *Maria van Swaen*, Daughter to the Emperor *Philip*. He had also by *Sophia* another *Henry*, surnamed *The Brabander*: He with the Assistance of his Mother, made divers Attempts

tempts for the acquisition of their Inheritance; which the strength of the adverse Party rendered ineffectual: But at last he regained *Haffa*, and left his Posterity posselt of it, more by the Prayers of *Elizabeth* than the Assistance of his Mother. But leaving this neighbouring History, let us come to those things for which cause it was related.

Sophia, Inheritrix of her Mothers Piety, being willing to follow her Example in all things, was strongly inclined to the Veneration and Love of our B. Lady. This really believed, That her Mother bequeathed her some Images of the B. Virgin, which in remembrance of her, she loved and esteemed more than ordinary; whereof she gave one to the Cloyster of *Carmelite Nuns* at *Kilvord*, which hath been antiently as famous for its Miracles as of late; its title is, *Our B. Lady of Consolation*; intimating that several Persons have there been delivered from their Maladies, and acquired ease both of Body and Mind. She gave three other Images to *Mechtildis*, Sister to Duke *Henry*, her Husband, who being a Widow had married *Florentius IV.* Earl of *Holland* and *Zealand*, from which Nuptials sprung the honoured *William II.* who was in the contention chosen Emperour of *Germany*.

Mechtildis's reception of these Images of *Sophia*, in process of Time had a better Effect than could have been; if she had received them from *Elizabeth* her self, who had been long dead; and the great Distance that was between their several Habitations, might have prevented any Acquaintance between them. *Mechtildis* not long before her Decease, distributed the Images in divers Places. She placed one at *Gravesand*, an antient though small City of *Holland*, situate near the Cloyster of *Loosduynen*, which she had founded, and where after

Lipsh. Hall. c. 3.

her Husbands Death, she piously and chastly spent the remainder of her Life. She gave another to the *Clar-melites* Church at *Haerlem*. And the third (which is our Image) she bestowed at *Wille* in *Henegow*: But why was this placed there? I believe because her Daughter *Adelbeydis* was married to *John* of *Aubuer*, Earl of *Henegowe*, some Years before her Death: To which we may add, That she had a Daughter of her own Name, who being married to the Earl of *Henneberg*, had at one Birth 364 Children, which were baptized altogether by the Bishop of *Utrecht*: An Event that looks more like a Fable than a true History, I did not our Annals so firmly and unanimously assert it. But to return to our Design, as the stubborn were apt to calumniate, so the Religious admired by what means the Holy *Elizabeth* collected so many Images of the *B. Virgin*. Both which may be satisfied by *Marcellus*, who says, That she her self, on some Body for her, received them from her Aunt, the religious *Hedwigis*, (Wife to *Hedricus Barbatus* Prince of *Slesia* and *Poland*) who knew the vertuous Disposition of her Niece. The Reason of this Conjecture might be, That in her life time, she was found to have a great quantity of Images of the *B. Virgin*, which she very much revered. She kept a small one commonly in her Hand, as well to excite her Devotion with the sight of it, as to bless and heal the Sick: Nay, which is more, she so venerated that Sacred Image, that she dyed with one between her Fingers, and was in that Posture interr'd: Some Years after her death, her Body was found consumed, except the two Fingers, which with their former Vigor graspt the sacred Image. This is the Reason why the Painters represent her with an Image in her Hand.

Die A. 1267 ges-
chiedenis.
Lips. c. 3.

Tom. I. Ann. 113

To speak more particularly, This holy Image is composed of Wood, it is about three Foot high, sitting on a Chair and offering her left Breast to the Child to suck, the Cloaths and other Ornaments veil it from our Eyes: It is not esteemed for its composure, nor the Matter whereof it is composed, (that being slight and common) nor its black Colour, caused by its Antiquity, and the Smoak of Lamps; but there is a more than Human Majesty attends it, because it represents the B. Virgin, who is so honourable, and hath done so many Miracles, and doth daily. That Character, *Nigra sum, sed formosa*, might here take Place! This Meanness of the Image, ought not to diminish Wisemens Devotion, nor the Veneration of the Simple and Illiterate. Here that falls in very opportunely which *Wichmans* remarks, viz. That amongst all the miraculous Images of the B. Virgin (especially those that were found in the *Netherlands*) there was none whose matter was sumptuous, or composure elegant. Therefore they would not be esteemed, were not their worth enhanced by Faith; which neglecting the Curiosities of the Image, fixes it self upon the mighty Power of God, which appears through the Images in the Operation of Miracles. This gives us a clear Prospect of the Divine Providence, in bereaving the World of all Occasions of Idolatry by this meanness of the Images; for on the contrary, had they been elegant and costly, the unthinking Vulgar would have appropriated their Honour and Veneration to their Splendor; and the Obstinate would think and affirm, That we therefore honour the Type, but not for the Sake of the Prototype: Yet we ought not to hinder the making of costly Images in honour of the B. Virgin, for they represent her as well, nay better than the meaner, if they be miraculous.

The

Brab. Mar. l. 1.

c. 37.

The B. Virgin began to be honoured in this Image, and to perform various Miracles about the Year 1267. *Beyerlink theat.* in the time of *Nicholas de la Fontaine* the fifty first Bishop of *Camerick*; a Man of extraordinary Piety and Vertue; and as his Suffragan *Thomas Cantipratanus* (who was born at *Leew* near *Halle*) affirms; a great Honourer of the B. Virgin; a worthy Scholar to *Albertus Magnus*, and School-fellow with *Thomas Aquinas*, all ardent Lovers of the Mother of God.

CHAP. II.

The Blessed Virgin defended the City of Halle from the Power of her Enemies.

L Et us now with a thankful Acknowledgment relate the wonderful and memorable Actions, which the Queen of Heaven, and Mother of Mercy hath performed to so many afflicted and comfortless Persons. And here we must not omit, That the wooden Image, which is several hundred Years old, and yet is so far from the usual Concomitants of Antiquity, that it is not in the least injured by Time, nor the frequent Fires, which the Neighbours affirm have consumed the adjacent Houses.

The B. Virgin hath not only preserv'd her Image and Church from the impetuous Flames; but hath several Times defended the City against the Power and Force of its Enemies.

Philip Cleve, in the Year 1489. (chief of the Enemies of *Maximilian I.* and his Son *Philip*.) seeing that *Halle* was a Thorn in the Foot of the *Brassellers*, treacherously bought some of the Burglers to his side, that when he should come, they should give him entrance into

into the City: he was on his March with 6000. Men, and had surprized the City, had not a Burgher of *Brussels*, by chance (why say I by chance, it was by the appointment of the B. Virgin, who watched over her City) been imprisoned, who discovered the Plot: The Burghers made use of this Discovery, and let *Philip* of *Cleve* march on with his Army, pass the Moat, and climb the Walls, and then with an extraordinary Courage forced him to retire with Shame and Dishonour.

Philip seeing the ill Success of his first Assault, having procured more Strength, and armed himself better, made a second Assault: he had now 10000. Men, his Design was carried on with such Speed, that he surprized twenty Souldiers in the Fields without the City; the City was guarded with no stronger a Garrison than 250. Men, which rendred his Dishonour the greater. He planted his Ordnance, and battered down so much of the Walls, that three Wagons could go in abreast; others shot with Bombs so violently, that many Houses were in Danger of burning. In this apparent Danger, the Burghers were thunder-struck with Fear and Astonishment: All human Helps were ineffectual, which caused them to rely on the Goodness of *Heaven*. They applyed themselves unto the Blessed Virgin, and being encouraged by an Expectation of her Help, and accompanied with spiritual Assistances, they resisted so stoutly, that by Sun-set, the Enemy having lost his Men and Courage, was forced to raise the Siege, openly proclaiming, That it was more than human Power that vanquished him. During the Fight the Women were very busie in quenching the injected Fire; there was ten Women in one House, so much endangered, that all people thought they had been choaked or burned;

burned; but they were delivered without any great Damage, and went each of them to her own House.

There was none in *Flalle*, whose countenance did not expresse an extraordinary Joy, and there was a joyful and universal Thanksgiving to the B. Virgin. On the next Day the Enemy being resolved to hazard another Assault, there arrived a Messenger from the valiant Prince *Charles* of *Croy* to the Burghers, promising them his Assistance within three Days: This caused an extraordinary Joy to possess the Citizens Minds, which shewed it self in beating of Drums and ringing of Bells: This unusual Triumph raised a Suspicion and Fear among the Enemies, which hurried them to so hasty a Flight, as forced them to leave their Dead and Wounded, and Appurtenances behind them in the City-Moats, and in the Way. In Remembrance of this great deliverance, there was reserved one hundred Iron and Stone Bowls, weighing some thirty, others forty, and some sixty Pound: By this we may see the Strength of those Cities (though weakly fenced) which the B. Virgin hath chosen to govern.

For the Remembrance of this Victory, the Burghers spend the Even of the tenth of *July* in all Expressions of Joy, and the Morning in Devotion; they sing a solemn Thanksgiving-Mass, and carry the Host in Procession along the Streets and Walls.

CHAP. III.

The Punishment of two Blasphemers.

WE will descend a little to our Times, and by an Action worthy of Derision, evince the Power and Praise of the B. Virgin.

In

In the Time of the bloody *Netherland-Wars*, *Oliver vanden Tempel* had the chief Charge of the Magazine in *Brussels*. The City of *Halle*, as also *Henegow* and *Artois*, put themselves under the King of *Spain's* Protection: This so enraged *Oliver*, that he marched twice courageously against the City, thinking that none of the neighbouring Cities (which were all his Allies) would hinder his Design: There was scarce forty Souldiers in the City, the Citizens young and inexpert; for all this he was courageously beaten off the first Day: Then under Pretence of a feigned Retreat, he sent presently for all the Souldiers out of the neighbouring Cities, and came again before *Halle* with more Strength, before they knew of it. His Souldiers being on their March, heightened the Valour of each other with courageous Speeches; amongst the rest, one *John Swickius* an impious Fellow, said, He would cut off the Nose of our little Lady of *Halle* (so he called the B. Virgin). They came before the City, and when both Sides began to Shoot, a Musket-bullet took off *Swickius's* Nose, (it was undoubtedly directed by the B. Virgin.)

But *John Risselmans* was more insolent and rude: This Villain said, That he would carry the Image of the B. Virgin to *Brussels*, and make a Bonfire with it. This Impious Calumniator thought not of the approaching Fire that shortly after reached him; For a Cannon-Bullet hit him, and carried his Jaw along with it, which was the Cause of his Death shortly after. This was the Fortune of those that came to fight against the City of *Halle*, that is against the B. Virgin.

C H A P. IV.

A Servant having lost his Masters Falcon, and being upon the Ladder to die for it, was delivered from his approaching Death, by the Assistance of the B. Virgin.

THe following Relation is attested by antient Records, and an old Wooden Image, although Time hath bereft us of the Year when it was done, and the Names of the Persons. The Dutch Nobility (before they were destroyed by War) were great Lovers of Hawking and Fowling ; for this End they had divers expert and costly Hawks brought unto them from the North. A Nobleman, whose Severity is better known to us than his Name, was addicted to this Exercise, and had a Falcon which he highly esteemed ; this Falcon, either by an unhappy Chance, or the carelessness of the Falconer, flew away past recovery : The Nobleman understanding his Loss, was so enraged that he swore, If his Servant did not find his Falcon within five Weeks, his Head should satisfy the Loss. He made all possible search in Woods and all other likely Places, but in Vain, the Falcon was irrecoverably lost : At the five Weeks end, he could not prevail with his Lord for one Weeks Respite, but he still persisting in his Resolution, caused a Gallows to be immediately erected before his House, the Executioner bound his Eyes and led him up the Ladder, standing with the Rope about his Neck, he remembred *Halle*, And your Mercy, O Blessed Virgin ! which he shortly after experienced, yea it even met his Devotions ; for while he was at his Prayers, and directed his Heart to You, he thought that he heard the clapping of the Wings of
of

of a Fowl, which gave him some Hope, he desired his Master that his Eyes might be unbound, that he might send his Prayers to Heaven with a Freedom of Sight ; his Request was granted, then renewing his Invocations of the Blessed Virgin, the Falcon flew swiftly towards the almost dying Person, and settled upon his Shoulder. Some affirm, That the Falcon came not until he had been turned off the Ladder ; but this is not attested by the Image which he offered. All the Spectators congratulated his Preservation, and wished him all Felicity, and he rendered Praise and Honour unto the B. Virgin. His Lord might with his Falcon catch Partridges, but on that Day the B. Virgin caught the best Prey.

C H A P. V.

One was delivered from Drowning.

THat the Mercy of the Mother of God is more abundant than the Waters, *Paslinus* shall evince, 1380.1 August. who was a Burgher of *Engben* in *Henegow*. In *August* in this little City, arose such a grievous Tempest, mixt with hard Thunderbolts, dreadful Lightning, and thick black Rain, that the swelling Springs, Stoneways, Houses and Water-mills, were washed away by the prevailing Stream, and turned the Land into a Sea ; all now sought some Refuge, one got up on high to preserve himself from Water, another crept into a Hole for Shelter against the Lightning. *Paslinus* betook himself to his Cellar, as well to preserve himself, as some Victuals, and Household-stuff ; as he was busie there, he was over-run with Water, there was no Opportunity of Flight, nor Hopes of human Help : He

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resolved

resolved in this extream Necessity with a Prayer to commit himself to the Charge of the B. Virgin; and immediately he found help, for he espied a little above a Door, which he caught hold of, and hung there two Hours, yet the Water was up to his Chin, and sometimes it rose above his Head, but did not continue so any Time; the approaching Night filled him with dismal Apprehensions of its length, and made him renew his Supplications to the B. Virgin, who cast forth her bright Beams, and considerably increased his Strength, enabling him to keep his Hold at the Door until the next Day, and his Deliverance appeared, for on the Morning the Waters were sunk; yet he understood, to his great Grief, that his Wife and Child were drowned in the Inundation. He offered a Waxen-Image in Honour of the B. Virgin, and came accompanied with seventeen Witnesses to return her Thanks; for it was she alone that kept him from his approaching Death.

C H A P. VI.

A drowned Child restored to Life.

A House accompanied with many Children and much Water, fills the Parents Hearts with Fears. A young Child unhappily evinced the Truth of this, to his Fathers Grief, and the Glory of the B. Virgin. The Father missing his Son, after having spent two Hours in a vain Search for him feared that Misfortune which afterwards happened; for he found him drowned in a Pool, his Head in the Mud, and his Feet out of the Water; he drew him out, but found no Sign of Life remaining in him: After he had lain thus a full Hour,

Hour the Father cast a sorrowful Eye towards his Child, and sent a Prayer for Mercy to You, O Blessed Mother! His Thoughts had hardly reached *Halle*, before the Child was restored to Life and began to stir, and to rise up, and walked home with his Father. The Waters of Death abound in all Places, but in *Halle* there flows a Fountain of Life.

CHAP. VII.

A Person possessed by the Devil, was dispossessed.

IF an ill Guest be a great Burthen, how bad must it then be for a Man to harbour his worst Enemy, not only in his House but in his Body. *Reynier Willegem* a Burgher of *Oudenaerde*, a stout Man and of a robust Body, was after our Ladies Ascension-day possesst by the Devil; this hellish Spirit seized him as followeth, He raved and foamed, and tore himself and others, his Countenance sufficiently evidenced the Malignity of his Guest. His Friends knew no better Remedy than to invoke the Aid of our Lady of *Halle*; their Prayers were heard, the Devil ejected, and *Reynier* regained his pristine Liberty. That hellish Serpent might well fear, That our B. Lady would not spare his Members, whose Head she had broken.

CHAP. VIII.

A Child being Blind and Diseased was cured.

THIS Childs Name was *Nicholas*, his Father lived at *Liege*: This *Nicholas* was not only Blind but very Weak and Infirm; The Fame of the Blessed Virgin

This in the
Original is in
Verso.

Virgin of *Halle* having reached that place, the Father addressed himself to her in behalf of his Son; who had both his Sight and Health restored unto him, and offered a Silver-Image in Honour of the B. Virgin.

CHAP. IX.

Some delivered from Shipwrack.

1405:

WE have hitherto confined our Discourse to the Land, let us now plunge our selves into the midst of a horrible Tempest, and there behold the Star of the Sea, the B. Virgin shooting the Beams of her Mercy. A Ship which departed from *Holland* being bound for *Antwerp*, encountred a dreadful Storm on its Way thither, and the approaching Night doubled the Danger, and the Fears of those on Board her, and the Pilot told them the Ship was lost, also that he had done all that he could, and advised every one to think upon his Soul, that they might reach the Heaven of Felicity. This made them fill the Air with Lamentations and Cries, and Prayers: One of the Seamen said unto them, Wherefore do we not betake our selves to the B. Virgin of *Halle*? They immediately followed his Counsel, and presently a bright Light visible above the Ship dispelled the Clouds of Night from their Eyes, and those of Fear from their Hearts, and conducted the Ship to its desired Key. The Master with some of the Men (like another *Noah*) went to *Halle*, to present his Thank-offering to the B. Virgin.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

A Gentlewoman was delivered from her Distraction.

HE that hath the Use of his Senses enjoys many Blessings that are not taken notice of, but the want of them renders a Man poor. This was exemplified in a young Gentlewoman of the House of *Angerelle*, who being very Beautiful, and of a healthful Constitution, became Distracted; her Mother spared neither Labour nor Charge for her Curing, although it proved Ineffectual; she then had Recourse to *Halle*, and by an ardent Prayer, recommended the miserable Estate of her Daughter to our Lady, and whilst she was at her Devotions in the Church, the Mother of Mercy performed a Miracle at Home, for her Daughter was cured at the very same Time.

1407.

She came to thank the B. Virgin, and offered a Waxen-image of 110*l.* weight correspondent to the Weight of her Daughter; but the Miracle can never be overweighed.

CHAP. XI.

A Boy was delivered from Drowning in the Maze.

AT Hacy five Boys went into a Boat, they lunched into the River and wantonly played together in the Boat; but their Sport had not continued long, ere the swelling of the *Maze* and Strength of the Winds interrupted it, and tossed the Boat so violently, that they could hardly get to the Shore: But as soon as they were got to Land, four of them leapt out of the Boat, and

1408.

and with their leaping made the Boat fly back on the Water, the fifth, who was about fourteen Years Old, remained in the Boat; immediately the Wind and Waves tossed the Boat aloft, and presently plunged it into the Deep, and turned it upside down so violently that the unfortunate Boy was thrown out amongst the Waves; the four that had leaped Ashore, by their Cries drew the People to the Water-side, and amongst the rest the Boys Mother: What could she do? she said, O B. Virgin who art honoured at *Halle*, I promise that I will come thither with my Son to serve you, if it will please you to deliver him from his approaching Death. The Vow was hardly uttered, ere he was driven towards the Bridg by the mighty Force of the Waters, he passed the Arches of the Bridg uninterrupted, and floated along amongst the Waves about the space of half a Mile, to a place where the overflowing River softly laid him down.

O wonderful Goodness! the Boy wrestled with the Waves, and was as it were carried in the soft Arms of the blessed Virgin.

C H A P. XII.

IN A H O

A Child which was Strangled was restored to Life.

1479.

1501

IN the City of *Bins*, there was a poor Chair-Woman, by name *Catharine*; she had a small Child whose Name was *Christopher*; being gone abroad to work on *Easter-eve*, one of her Neighbours knocked at her Door, and finding it slightly shut entered the House, poor People who have nothing to lose have no Cause of Fear: This Woman found the Child hanging out of the Cradle and strangled; it is probable that the Child

1512

in the absence of his Mother, turning it self to and fro, rolled out of the Cradle, and remained hung in the Swathing-band. The Woman seeing this, fell to crying and calling, which brought several people thither; as also the Mother of the Infant, who being astonished and frighted at the accident swooned away, but the by-standers brought her to her self again, and encouraged her, and advised her, to offer up her Child to our Lady of *Halle*, which she did with a good courage, and distinct words: And behold the Child which was stiff, and had been above three hours dead, immediately revived, and eat and drank that which was given to it. The Mother afterwards offered it up to the blessed Virgin of *Halle*, according to her promise; being accompanied with the noble Lady of *Scarffme*, and other creditable Persons at *Halle*. And should not the B. Virgin cause such a grieved Mother, and her Infant, to rejoyce, who as on the day following had received an unspeakable Consolation, by the Resurrection of her Son.

C H A P. XIII.

A Girl that was drowned in a Well, was restored to life.

IT is a Proverb, *The deeper the Well, the clearer the Water*; to which I add the more excellent Miracle. This was obvious in the Castle of *Ligny*, and evinced in the Person of *Johanna Mallart*, who went to draw Water for the use of the Family, out of a Well about 40 foor deep, and the top was laid round with Bricks, having before it a great Stone, against which people leaned. As the Girl was drawing up a Bucket, this Stone, and she with it, fell into the Well, and was

D drowned;

drowned : in this fall there was another Evil, for in the Well there jetted out a piece of a Rock, upon which she fell with such a force, that not only wounded her Head, and her Arm, but which was worst, she so hurt her Leg, that it was swelled as big as her Body : She remained half an hour in the Water before she was drawn out ; she was dead, her countenance being very black and filthy. She was in this condition 3 hours ; her Mother was a sorrowful Spectator all the time : But a Ray of Consolation displayed it self, for as soon as she (by the advice of the by-standers) had offer'd up her Prayers, and her Daughter, to our Lady of Halle, Joanna reviv'd, regain'd her former Colour, and her Wounds were healed. Her Mother and she came to Halle to return thanks to the B. Virgin.

Here also I should add a Relation of a little Boy, which 3 years before was drowned in a Well at *Obbrufel*, and through the compassion of the Mother of Mercy revived. May not the B. Virgin then say in the words of the Wise man, *Prov. 8. He that findeth me findeth life, and Wells of Salvation from the Lord.*

C H A P. XIV.

A Child after it had been three days Dead and Buried, the Original. was restored to life.

AT *Seneffe*, a Village of *Brabant*, not far from *Halle*, (as is asserted by unquestionable testimony) there was a Child still-born ; it continued in that state three days, and was also buried. The sorrowful Mother had spent a whole day in Tears, and in the evening she thought she saw a Woman of an honourable Miene, and cheerful Countenance ; who told her

her, If she would make a vow to our Lady of *Halle*, her Child should live: The Mother promis'd that she would go to *Halle* to serve the Blessed Virgin, and being comforted by this Woman, would have the Child taken out of the Grave, which was done, and the Child laid Dead, and stiff in its Mothers Lap: Presently the pale Colour began to vanish from its Cheeks, and the Child revived, and was baptized; and at Noon it dy'd again, and its Soul went to the Caelestial Court; to render Honour and Praise to the Blessed Virgin.

CHAP. XV.

Two Dead Children restored to Life.

ANother Child at *Cantimpre*, unhappily lost and ^{1427. March} killed its self; his Fathers-Name was *John Bidans*, ^{7.} who with its Mother, the Family and Neighbours spent two days and a night, in a vain search after the Child; the Father very zealously vowed to go on Pilgrimage to our Blessed Lady of *Halle*, and renewing their search, they found him smothered in a Muddy Pool; and trusting upon the mercy of the Blessed Virgin, they laid him upon her Altar; the Corps feeling the power of that adjacent Mother, which bore unto us eternal life, revived, spoke and walked, in the presence of *Nicholas* Lord Bishop of *Cantimpre*, and a great multitude of people. The Father coming to *Halle*, might joyfully say, My Son was lost and is found, was Dead, and is risen again.

But that which I am about to add, is more stupendious. At *St. Hilaries*, a small Village near *Camerick*, ^{1428.} lived one *Stephen Morel*, and his Wife *Fermine*, who

was delivered of a Dead Child, which the Midwife, and all the rest of the Women present at her delivery attested : They had now no more to do but to Bury the unbaptized Child in unhallowed Earth ; which they performed. In this condition it remained fifteen days, and was forgotten by all but the Mother, in whose thoughts it was deeply impressed. It troubled her most that her Child was not only bereft of this short, but an Eternal Life.

This raised such a commotion in the mind of the Religious Mother, (Religious I say, because she came every year to serve our Blessed Lady of *Halle*) that she made a Vow, and daily renewed it, her Faith encountering the ordinary course of Nature. Things continued in this posture until the fifteenth day from her unhappy Delivery, when she was assur'd by a Vision, that her Child was alive ; she forced her Husband and some Women to go to the Grave, to examine the truth of it : They digg'd up the Earth 3 foot deep, for so deep the Child lay, and behold ! (Oh stupendous Miracle !) they found the same Child living, and as fresh as a Blooming Rose.

They acquainted the Parish Priest with this Miracle, who found their Report to be true, for he saw in the Child clear evidences of life ; but because the Child was Dedicated to our Lady, he advised them to carry it to *Vertigneuil*, a neighbouring Village, where our Lady was very much honoured. The Midwife and the Women, with other people, went thence on the Evening ; the Village was situate two miles distant ; the Prudent Mother gave them a piece of a hallowed Candle, to put into a Lanthorn to light themselves along. And behold another Wonder ! That small piece of Candle, not two Inches long, burned from

six

six of the Clock in the Evening, until the next day, without the least diminution. In their Journey, a third Wonder appear'd, before them it was light as the Day, but behind them a very dark Night. They set out so late, and walked so slowly, for fear of injuring the Child, that it was late in the Night e're they arrived at *Vertigneuil*. 'Tis to be supposed that they lodged there, burning in the interim the hallowed Candle by the Child. The next morning, as soon as it was perfect day light, they went to the Priests Lodging, but not finding him there, they heard that he was gone to the Castle of *Vertain*, upon some affair. The Father and the Church-Wardens Wife went presently thither, when they came there it was Noon, and they found all the Gates shut; they knock'd, but in vain, for no body opened them. Behold now a fourth Wonder! The Portal of the first Gate opened its self, also the Portals of the second and third Gate, opened of their own accord; and they came into the Chamber where the Governour, the Priest, and others were, without the knowledge of any in the Castle. *Henry Damman*, who was Governour of the Castle, began to demand whether they were Friends or Enemies, and run at the Porter with his Sword, to Revenge the Treachery he thought him guilty of; but having with astonishment heard the reason of their coming, and the opening of the Portals, he and the guests, about twenty in number, would accompany the Priest to the Baptizing of such a Child. When they came where the Infant was, they saw in it remarkable Tokens of life, it bled at the Nose, opened its Mouth and Eyes, it sigh'd, and wept great tears. This firmly assured the Priest, and all the Spectators, that it was alive; the Priest Baptized it in the Presence of almost Seventy Persons.

And

And presently after (is not this the fifth Miracle) they saw it evidently wast and decay like Snow; it died there, and was Buried in Sanctify'd Earth. The same hour the Mother *Firmine* felt her Breast to dry, which before was full of Milk. This Miracle was seen, and attested by two whole Villages: Oh wonderful thing! What can Impudence? Yea Calumny its self, say against these Miracles? Blessed be thou, O Blessed Virgin; which bore in thy Womb everlasting life, and through thy Mercy and Intercession gave life, both of Soul and Body to the Dead, and made him partaker of eternal life. Keep in us the life of Grace, that we may enjoy a happy Death, a joyful Resurrection, and everlasting Glory; and live in it with thee, and thy Son for ever.

CHAP. XVI.

An innocent Man wonderfully delivered from the Gallows.

IF the Mother of God be ready to help the impious, how can she then neglect the innocent seeking her aid, it is far from her mercy and goodness so to do. This was exemplified in the person of *John Sampenoy*; who, coming from *Assernay* in *Champagne*, to *Halle*, to offer his Devotions to the Blessed Virgin, on the way he got two Treacherous companions, *Nicholat Barren*, and *Peter Le Norman*, who understanding the cause of his Journey, told him that they also were going to *Halle*, but not for the sake of Devotion, but profit, for they were Merchants.

These two were pursued, and taken at *Auennes* for Thieves, and Legally convicted of Robbery: They were put upon the Rack, whereupon they confessed that they had stole, and Sold four Silver Cups, and

withal

withal accused *Sampenoy* of being Guilty with them of the Theft; and receiving a third part thereof; also they said that they had Murthered a Man on the way; and *Sampenoy* had assisted them; hereupon they were led to Execution, but *Nicholas* upon the Gallows cleared *Sampenoy*, and recalled his false accusation; but *Peter Le Norman* persisted in his accusation, affirming that *John* was alike guilty with him, and that he would confirm this with his Death. The Judge proceeded, and hanged *Sampenoy* with the other two, notwithstanding his constant assertion of his Innocence; the Judge exhorted the people to hear a Mass for his Soul, to which *Sampenoy* replied, "No my Lord, I had rather they would recite a *Pater Noster* and an *Ave Mary*, in honour of the Blessed Virgin of *Halle*, to whom I was going, and because my innocence cannot help me here, I appeal to her, and desire that she would please to defend me. He was then turned off the Ladder, but still continued alive, the Executioner in a passion leapt upon his shoulders, that he might strangle him with his weight: but for all this he remained alive, seeing clearly, (as he after related) a Beautiful Woman, of a Majestick aspect, who embraced him, and took him into her protection. More than an hour had been spent on this manner, to the amazement of all the spectators, when *John de Selles*, a Gentleman, came riding with full speed to thither, and said to the Judge, "My Lord, I desire that you would please to give me this innocent man, or rather give him to our Lady, in whose name and was by whose command I came higher. *Sampenoy* was immediately cut down, and released, and began to thank the Gentleman; but he told him, that it was the Mother of God which had wrought his deliverance, whom he was obliged to go

Halle.

Halle to serve. It is Proverb, That a man had better be given over by ten Physitians, than be condemned by one Judge; but they that hide themselves under the wings of the B. Virgin, need not fear the one, nor the other: For Sickness and Death are in her power, to inflict or restrain them.

CHAP. XVII.

A Person delivered from his Imprisonment in France.

THE Holy Angel delivered *Peter* out of Prison, but the Queen of Angels, delivered the Person whereof I am about to write: *William Mostier* travell'd from *Picardy*, his own Country, towards the Province of *Poitiers* (there was then a sharp War between *Charles* the 7th. King of *France* and the *English*) he unfortunately fell into the latter, and was led Captive to the City of *St. Michael*, where he was imprisoned in a deep Dungeon, and had two Irons put upon his Legs! He remained there ten Months, because he could not raise a ransom of Eighty Golden Crowns. Being in this condition the Blessed Virgin of *Halle* came into his mind, whose name and worship was then famous in *Picardy*, he prayed heartily that by her assistance he might be delivered from this filth and darkness. Hereupon he fell into a sweet sleep, and waking in the Morning (oh wonderful thing!) he found himself not only out of the Prison, and free from his bonds, but three Miles distant from *St. Michael*. Whilest he being astonished, stood contemplating of his deliverance, there was some *English* Troopers came thither, and amongst them Captain *Turnbul*, who immediately knowing him, said unto him, Are not you our Prisoner? how came you
hither?

what power, or Subtily, did you get out of Prison. To which he answered, Sir I'll tell you the Truth; "I was not delivered by humane power or craft, but my deliverance was performed by a higher hand, by the B. Virgin, whom I invoked; she brought me hither unknown to my self, when I was asleep; I beseech you that you would, and I trust that you will further so good a Work. The Captain and his Companions, being moved by this Relation, and assured of the truth thereof, gave him a Passport, wherein they testified this Miracle; which Pass *Willier Mostier* brought to *Halle*, and with Thanksgiving offered it up to our Lady, well-knowing that he was delivered out of the Prison, and from the Iron Bands, but was bound in other obligations to the Blessed Virgin.

C H A P. XVIII.

A Woman wonderfully preserved from Death, under a Wheel of a Mill.

AND had not *Catharine*, the Wife of *John Massart*, a great reason to thank the B. Virgin? *John Massart* was both a Carpenter and Miller, and lived near the Abby of *Lobes*, in *Henegow*. He went to work abroad, and left the charge of the Mill to his Wife; she perceiving the Mill to go slowly for want of Water, drew up the Sluce, and let in a rapid Stream, to turn the Wheel more swiftly. The Plank whereon she stood broke from under her, and she was presently driven under the Wheel, by the force of the Water; where she remained. We must not omit to remark that she was big with Child, and her time almost consummated. In her fall, she lifted up her heart to the B. Virgin of *Halle*,

Flalle, and found that a secret friend is a strong bridge; for the Mother of God preserved her half an hour, not only from drowning by the Water, but also from the crushing of the Wheel. By this time her Husband came, who by his complaints summoned to his aid, and for Witnesses, the Neighbours, the Chief Magistrate of the place, and some Religious of the Abby of *Lotes*. They drew her out of the Water, not expecting to find her alive, but she came out alive and very well, thanking a thousand times the B. Virgin, who had so preserved her, that a few days after she was Delivered of a Beautiful Child, to the astonishment of all that heard of it; that under so heavy a weight the Child was neither bruised nor wounded.

C H A P. XIX.

A Taylor having swallowed his Needle, was delivered from the danger attending it by the Blessed Virgin.

B *Artholomew Broeck*, a Taylor of the City of *Denremonde*, being busied about his work, put his Needle and Thred into his Mouth, that he might have his hands free; being intent on his work, and forgetting his Needle, he unhappily swallowed both that and the Thred. Afterwards he complained to his Wife, who consulted the Physicians and followed their advice, but in vain: After it had remained in his Body four days, he went to *Mechlen* to his Brother, who was a Physician; but he could not force it out of his Body by any Drinks or Purge. It happened that on a *Saturday* his Brother made a small Feast, to entertain his sorrowful Guests, which being done, the Bell Rung to that service which is called *the Praise of the B. Virgin*; his Brother

she went unto the Church, but *Bartholomew* stayed behind: As he was musing, our Lady of *Halle* came into his thoughts, he presently sent a fervent Vow unto her, and immediately he felt something between his Teeth, and pulled out the Needle and Thred. He joyfully shewed his Brother this great Miracle, and thankfully visited the B. Virgin of *Halle*; and he had great reason so to do, for his life had hung many days upon a Needle and Thred.

C H A P. XX.

A Nobleman preserved from Death, upon the Sea.

TH E Ship that carried *Cæsar* and his Fortunes, was not so prosperous as that wherein a Burgher and Nobleman of *Monick*, in *Bavaria*, was returning from the *Holy Land*. Being upon the *Mediterranean Sea*, he fell sick of a dangerous disease, which in the judgment of the Seamen was incurable: They had resolved to throw him overboard for food for the Fishes. Another Nobleman perceived their design and was very sorry for it; he went to the sick Person, and found him not only speechless but almost senseless; he comforted him as much as he could, and told him that in the City of *Halle* the B. Virgin was worshipped, that she had done many good Offices for men, and was a publick refuge, and common defence to the afflicted, advising him to trust in her; and if he could not with his mouth, he should at least in his heart make a vow unto her; and told him that he should immediately regain his health. The Nobleman understanding him, sighed from the bottom of his heart, and prayed unto her, and at the same time he saw a company of evil Spirits hovering over the Ship;

also he saw besides a Woman of an honourable Mien, and a beautiful Countenance, standing before him, having in one Arm a little Child, and in the other hand a burning Candle; which she had hardly shewed before the Spirits betook themselves to flight. He felt the influence of her presence, for his speech returned, his distemper abated, and his strength was augmented to his great comfort, and the astonishment of the Seamen; in short, he was restored to his Health, and returned to his own Country. Then it was his first and principal care to perform his obligations to the B. Virgin; to that end he and his Servant went to *Netherland*, with Testimonies of an extraordinary devotion, for he came and returned barefoot that long way, which is almost as broad as all *Germany*.

C H A P. XXI.

A Carman falling into the Water with his Cart was delivered from Death.

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ALthough Salt is an Emblem of Wisdom, yet here comes a Carman with a whole Cart-load thereof; who was not wise enough to foresee his misfortune, much less to prevent it: But I believe this danger beset him, that the Name and Praise of the B. Virgin might be the more spread in *Long-Champ* in *Walsch Brabant*.

This Carman being driving his Cart over a Bridge in *Long-Champ*, it fell in, he seeing the fall approach, endeavour'd to support the Cart, but the weight thereof forced him along with it, and Horse, and Cart, and he under it, fell into the River: God ordered it so that there was a Girl near to the place, who seeing the accident, called for help; but it was a long time e're she could

could get People enough together. The Magistrate himself, and several beside, run to the place, and got out the Horse and Cart, and found unexpectedly the Carman, who had laid under it; they all thought that he was as well stifled by the weight of the Cart, as drowned by the Water. They carried him to the Magistrates House, where they stript him, but he was so fargone that he did not feel them; no symptoms of life appear'd in him. One or two of the Spectators, out of a Christian Compassion, recommended this poor man to our Lady, making some Vows at the same time.

This Devotion, although it came from persons unconcerned, was acceptable to the *Holy Mother of God*, and found a return of Mercy; for the Carman came to himself, and a little while after unloaded his Cart. He also went to *Halle* to thank our Lady for this benefit. This Carmans mean Cart, by this Miracle was rendred more Illustrious than the Triumphant Chariots of *Rome*.

C H A P. XXII.

A Person preserved from several dangers, in and after Battel.

WHAT will you see in the *Shunamite*, but Hymns of Armies (said the Bridegroom) that is Thanksgivings to the B. Virgin for Victories, and deliverance from Dangers, in the midst of Enemies. A Wonderful History which was acted in *Picardy*, will confirm this. The Earl of *St. Paul* (famous of that time for his Valour and Noble Descent) was to go from *Chastelet* to Campaign, to the *Daulphin of France*: There being then War between the *French* and the *English*;

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on a *Saturday* in the morning, he sent his Cook, Steward and Quarter-Master, to provide Lodging, and to prepare for his Reception. These three discovered a Party of the Enemy, sixty or seventy in number, that were stealing the Cattel: They returned speedily, and advertis'd the Earl of the danger; he being a stout man, caused his men immediately to Arm themselves, and mount their Horses; he being the most forward, rid out before, with *John de Gertru*, a trusty Servant, in such haste, that *John* was not well Armed; the rest followed them by one or two at a time; their whole number being about Eighty. They pursued the Enemy, but they found them together with those which came out of their Ambuscade, to be 1500 strong. *John* first perceived their number, and desired his Master (who burned to fight them) to return, whilst he would detain them with Skirmishing: The Earl would not consent to that, but fell upon them, and they upon him; *John* was shot in his Arm by two Cross-Bow Arrows; and looking about him, once more to admonish his Lord, a third Arrow hit him on the Head, upon which he fell from his Horse. The Earl seeing that the Enemy was too unequal, and knowing that delay would but inflame the Enemy, put spur to his Horse, and endeavour'd to reach the next Town.

The Earl here was troubled at nothing so much as the loss of such a trusty Servant, thinking that he certainly dy'd of those three wounds; but the goodness of God, and the mercy of the B. Virgin preserved him, contrary to all expectation, yea even beyond belief; for whilst he lay among the men and horses, he had continually in his mouth the B. Virgin of *Halle*, praying that she who assisted so many, would not forsake him

him in this apparent danger; he crept upon his hands and feet unto the next way, where he lay very feeble. Here again arose a new difficulty, for three of the Enemies party came to plunder the Dead, and finding this miserable Man, they took his Money, Rings and Cloathes, and cleaved his Head with a Sword. Being thus wounded, he still retained his life and hope, again beseeching the B. Virgin, as also St. *Barbara*, that they would be so gracious as to afford him an opportunity of Confession: This Prayer so moved the Souldiers themselves, that they served him in this request, for they seeing by chance a Priest, called him to the wounded person, that he should prepare him for death, for they intended to kill him. As it also happened afterwards, one of them endeavouring to cut his Throat, but the B. Virgin so averted the Blade, that only the Coller of his Shirt was cut. The Priest did his best endeavour to beg his life of them, whereupon the Souldiers retired, and the Priest got him to an adjacent Barn, dressing his wounds, as much as the time would permit. There came also another Party of the Enemy, but there was amongst them some Honourable Souldiers and Commanders, but they did not meddle with them. At the approach of these the Priest had run away. After they were gone the three Villains came again, and seeing him alive, struck him a very hard blow, by which they thought they had killed him, as indeed they had, without the assistance of the Mother of God. Going on their way, they drew the body in a great rage to the River: The B. Virgin comforted him, and advised him to feign himself dead; here they threw him into the Water, and because they would be sure to kill him they pricked him with a Lance. The B. Virgin also averted this push, and carried her Servant

ant unto a small dirty Island, that jets its Head a little above Water, where he lay three hours; the coldness of the water, and his loss of blood by nine mortal Wounds rendred him quite stiff. The Priest which had heard his Confession, like a good *Samaritan*, out of compassion, went to seek him, and following the track of his blood, came to the water, where, to his great grief, he could not find him. I desire that the Courteous Reader would not be offended with the length of this Relation, but that he would please to search after, and exalt the powerful arm of the B. Virgin *Mary*, with Patience and Astonishment. The Priest standing here comfortless, cast his eyes towards the little Island, where he saw something, but he could not discern whether it was a man or some evil Spirits; arming himself with the sign of the Holy Crofs he called aloud, *I conjure you in Gods Name, if you are a Christian, to speak or make some sign*: Hereupon *Job* lifted up his arm and satisfied the Priest, who went up to the Neck in water, and brought him to a dry place, and immediately run to the next Town to procure a Wagon, and some men, to carry him thither, where he was cured, and came in person to the B. Virgin of *Halle*, with his mouth full of Thanksgiving, and yet the thanks was beneath the benefit which he received; for he was four times preserved from death, and consequently gained four lives.

CHAP. XXIII

A Gentleman was delivered out of Prison.

Philip of Cleve, a young Gentleman, naturally, though illegally descended from that Illustrious House, lived at *Dijon* in *Burgundy*, and was very much addicted to War and Arms, but he was not so fortunate as valiant, for he was taken by the French, and imprisoned at *Vaucouleur* in *Lorraine*, in a Tower 80 Cubits high; his Ransom, being a Gentleman, was 500 Crowns, which being too great a sum for his Estate, caused in him not only a grief of mind, but a bodily disease also. Once when his dinner was brought unto him, he fell into a sweet sleep which continued until the next day at Noon, and then he was awaked by the Keeper of the Prison, who admonished him to eat the portion of Meat which was allotted him; but the delight which he had received from a Vision in his sleep, averted his appetite from it. His Vision was as followeth; He thought that he saw himself lying upon the steps of our Lady's Chappel, pouring his fervent prayers out before her Image; which were heard; for the B. Virgin gave him hope of an approaching deliverance. Being alone, he fell upon his knees, beseeching the B. Virgin that this dream might proceed to a happy event. Hereupon he took a bone from the Beef which was allotted him, and used it instead of a File, and touched therewith the Irons that were about his Neck, Hands and Feet, and broke them. He tyed his Linnen and Cloathes together, with which he let himself down from the Tower, but it was not long enough; he ventur'd a steep fall without any damage. Now to

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finish

finish happily that deliverance which was begun, he hid himself in the next Wood, and made use of the darkness of the Night to fly in; his flight continued three days, and at their end he came hungry, disfigured, and naked as he was, to thank the B. Virgin of *Halle*.

C H A P. XXIV.

A Servant was delivered from the Gallies.

ALthough (according to the Heathens) *Bellona* is the Goddess of War, yet she must lay her Arms and Laws at the feet of *Mary*; and those which she hath ordained to death, the B. Virgin can preserve alive. As it happened in *Weerd*, where the Mutiners were 5000 strong, and had retired to a place very well fortified. These men, although they had trodden under feet all Princely Laws, and Obligations of Obedience, yet they could not effect their design, without establishing new, and more severe Laws. They forbid the hindering, or injuring of those which brought and sold Provision upon pain of death. A Young man of *Luxemburg*, whose Name was *John*, went to the Market to buy Herrings; as soon as he had received the Herrings he intended to have paid for them, but he was driven from his place by the croud, before he could give the seller his Money. A Trumpeter saw this, but knew not that it was innocently done; and being allured by the 25 Crowns which was promised to the discoverer of any breaker of this Law, he delivered, and accused him to the Officers; who in a Council of War unanimously condemned him. Guilty or not guilty, he must now be hanged. Seeing that there was no Justice on

on Earth, he sent his Prayers to Heaven for Mercy, and said, O *Mighty Queen of Heaven*, which art worshipped at *Halle*, as thou hast several times defended the Innocent, so defend my Innocence; and immediately he received a strong confidence in her Mercy. He was led by the Executioner to the Gallows, tyed up, and turned off the Ladder. He was also halloed with a double Rope, one Cord broke, and the other was likely to break. Although the Spectators esteemed this to be a Miracle, yet the Executioner leaped upon his shoulders to strangle him; a Souldier seeing this, ran up the Ladder, and cut the Rope with his Sword. Thus *John* was delivered, and came and bowed his condemned Head before the B. Virgin of *Halle*, and thanked her for the deliverance.

C H A P. XXV.

A Nun cured of a Convulsion of the Sinews.

A *Driana Serraeus*, a Noble and Religious Nun of *1602* *Vorst*, being about 22 years of age, and in very good health, was suddenly taken with a Convulsion of the Sinews; this tormented her so grievously, that she could not rest by day nor night, neither the Ingenuity of the Physician, nor the Experience of the Chirurgion could afford her any redress; an evident sign that all humane help must give place, that we may ascribe the Glory to the B. Virgin only. To that end (with the Approbation of her Abbess) she sent a Pious Woman in her stead to *Halle*, who in her Name, and for the regaining of her Health, should offer up a gift, and cause the Sacrifice of the Mass to be recited. Oh wonderful, but true event! At the same time that the Woman

was offered the gift, to the very instant when the Priest was serving for her at the Altar of Mass, her health was restored her upon the Quire at West; she was then employed according to her custom, in praising of God; having regained her Health, she executed a joyful Te-Deum to be sung.

The Dutch Author relates some Miracles which are testified by the Inscriptions, and Paintings of the Chappel, but they being not so fully related as the precedent Relations; I shall only conclude with one of the Inscriptions, which is as it followeth.

D. O. M. & M. M. V.
Henicus ab Etten Antwerpia, mense Octobris Anno 1575. Pestilenti febris laborans, destitutus a Medicis, cum peregrinationem ad eadem Deipara Mallis Sacram vovisset; praesenti caelestis opis miraculo, mox eadem levatus, hanc tabellam tanti beneficii grati mentem, tanta misericordiae palam testem humile devotissime collocat, consecratque.

F I N I S.